

rent for the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 and the amount paid by the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. against those demands;

(b) whether there is any shortfall in clearing the aforesaid dues;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to clear the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Atomic Power Plant in Eastern Region

4592. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for installation of any Atomic Power Plant in eastern region of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to availability of coal resources in the eastern electricity region, the priority for setting up of nuclear power plants in that region is relatively low.

Housing Activity

4593. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether planning Commission is of the view that housing should be treated as priority to boost initially;

(b) if so, whether Union Government and few Cooperative Housing Group have identified the new areas for housing activity;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which they are likely to submit their recommendations;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The Planning Commission reports that it recognises the role of housing in stimulating the economic activity, employment, etc. and as a basic human need next only to food and clothing.

(b) to (d). Housing is a State subject and priority areas for locating housing scheme are identified by State Governments. No exercise in this regard together with few cooperative housing ground has been undertaken by the Union Government.

Import of Multinationals

4594. SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the new industrial policy on setting up of new industries;

(b) whether the Government have taken any initiatives for investment by private sector in a major way as a result of the new policy; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the overall impact on the public sector as a result of liberalisation under the new industrial policy and whether any public

undertaking has been closed as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). One of the major objectives of the new Industrial Policy is to accelerate the pace of industrial development in the country and encourage both foreign and domestic investment in the industrial sector. It is too early to judge the full impact of the new Policy, nearly 4000 Memoranda have been filed by entrepreneurs till the end of February 1992 for setting up of industrial units which no longer require industrial licensing. During this period, total foreign investment approved amounts to more than Rs. 1140 crores which is nearly 14 times the amount of foreign investment approved during the previous corresponding period.

There is no public sector undertaking which has been closed as a result of the new Policy. On the other hand, as indicated in the Statement on Industrial Policy, Government will strengthen those public enterprises which fall in the reserved areas of operation or are in high priority areas or are generating good or reasonable profits.

Ban on Transfer of Immovable Property in Delhi

4596. SHRISHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on transfer of immovable property in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that large scale transfer of such properties are affected by way of power of attorney; giving rise to large scale generation of black money; and

(c) if so, the steps if any, are proposed to be taken to streamline these transfers and

determine the correct position of properties for purposes of taxation, besides preventing black money generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to Delhi Administration transfers of lease hold immovable property in Delhi do take place on the basis of Power of Attorney.

(c) A scheme of conversion of residential properties into free hold has already been announced by the Government.

[Translation]

Coal Affected Roads

4597. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for metalling and widening of coal affected road in Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Government since long;

(b) if so, whether these proposals have been accorded approval; and

(c) if not, the time by which the approval is proposed to be according?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). Proposal were originally received from the State Govt. in 1982. Updated estimates were received in May, 1986. The State Govt. were informed that in view of the fact that construction of State roads is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts. and that the State Govt., besides raising funds through their internal resources, collect substantial revenue by way of royalty and other taxes levied on coal produced in